

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form comprising a layer of edible material bearing a diffraction relief, said edible material being thermoformable and stable, and said diffraction relief having a pattern of ridges and grooves sized and arranged to interact with visible light to convey a visible image or effect to the unaided eye.
2. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1 wherein said pharmaceutical dosage form further comprises a core comprising a pharmaceutically active substance and said layer is a solid all-covering or partially-covering coating overlying said core and said visible image or effect is a holographic image or effect.
3. (original) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 2 wherein said microrelief in said layer controllably responds to temperature and humidity acting on said layer so that a visible change in said holographic image or effect is an indication of exposure to excessive heat and/or humidity.
4. (original) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 2 or 3, in the form of a tablet.
5. (original) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 2 or 3, in the form of a capsule.
6. (cancelled)
7. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form comprising:
a core which comprises a pharmaceutically active substance and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier;
a thermoformable, edible, solid outer layer overlying said core, and a diffraction relief in said layer, said diffraction relief has a pattern of ridges and grooves arranged to interact with visible light to produce an image or effect to the unaided eye.
8. (cancelled)
9. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 7, wherein said outer layer completely covers said core.
10. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 7, wherein said outer layer partially covers said core.
11. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 7 wherein said layer is formed from of a thermoformable material selected from the group of modified

- cellulose, modified food starch, gelatin, waxes or vegetable gums and combinations thereof.
12. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 11 wherein said modified cellulose is selected from the group consisting of hydroxypropylmethylcellulose (HPMC), hydroxypropylcellulose (HPC), and mixtures thereof.
 13. (original) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 12 wherein said layer constitutes in the range of 0.25 - 5.0%, by weight, of said pharmaceutical dosage form.
 14. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 9 wherein said outer layer is applied by printing or laminating.
 15. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 14, wherein said outer layer is adhered to said core by a heat-fused bond.
 16. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 15, wherein said bond is made from an HPMC or HPC contact layer, wax, modified food starch, or mixtures thereof.
 17. (original) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 7 or 11, wherein said layer forms an edible capsule that holds said core.
 18. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 1 which consists essentially of said layer and, absorbed therein, or formed with a pharmaceutically active substance.
 19. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 9 or 10 wherein said outer layer comprises at least one food grade material selected to controllably display the effects over time of heat and/or humidity on said diffraction relief.
 20. (original) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 19 wherein said at least one of said materials is a low melting point wax.
 21. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 19 wherein said at least one food grade material is a high melting point wax that retards the effects of heat on the holographic image or effect produced by said diffraction relief.
 22. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 8 or 9 wherein said solid outer layer is formed of food grade materials selected to controllably display the effects of moisture on the diffraction relief.

23. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 22 wherein said at least one food grade material that responds to display the effects of moisture on the holographic image or effect produced by said diffraction relief is selected from the group consisting of a highly hygroscopic sugar such as dextrose or a plasticizer such as propylene glycol.
24. (original) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 22 wherein said food grade material retards the effects of moisture and comprises a low hygroscopic modified cellulose.
25. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 4 in which said core has a modification of its outer configuration that reduces twinning during pan-coating.
26. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 25 in which the modification comprises a reduction in the amount of flat areas on the core.
27. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 26 in which the modification comprises said core having at least one convexly curved face of not less than 0.6 radians.
28. (original) A pharmaceutical dosage form according to claim 26 wherein the core also has a recess formed thereon, said recess having a generally planar bottom surface.